

surgery in heart disease. As such it covers the great majority of common conditions in which emergencies occur. Mention is not made, but would seem useful, of shock other than in myocardial infarction and of cardiovascular complications of pregnancy and labor. The presentation of details of drug administration and other therapy is succinct and current. This is noteworthy in digitalis intoxication, arrhythmias and myocardial infarction.

Short case histories enliven the presentations of results of therapy and the brief comments on the pathologic physiology and clinical patterns give reason for the therapy presented for various conditions.

The attempt to differentiate acute coronary insufficiency from other mild forms of myocardial infarction has not met with the universal acceptance warranting such separation, in this discussion of therapy.

As may be expected, there are certain subjects in which differences of opinion would arise as to relative importance of techniques and dangers of certain procedures. A few examples are:

1. Tent, rather than nasal cannulae or mask, administration of oxygen and the omission of the use of the Bennett positive pressure oxygen apparatus.
2. The assumed restriction of L-norepinephrine concentration to 4 mg. per liter in intravenous therapy for shock and inadequate details of the technique of administration.
3. The failure to define the duration, preferably 0.1 sec., of the high voltage electric shock for cardiac defibrillation.

This book is not merely a compendium of drugs and techniques, but rather an excellent critical appraisal of relative values of procedures according to the authors' broad experience and the consensus of published reports.

From the astute introduction of what should be available in the physician's bag, to the adequate bibliography and index, this monograph should be a valuable part of the working equipment of the active medical practitioner. Students will find it contains much authentic information clearly and briefly presented.

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**PRIMARY ANATOMY.** H. A. Cates, M.B., Late Professor of Anatomy, University of Toronto, and J. V. Basmajian, M.D., Associate Professor of Anatomy, University of Toronto. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1955. 339 pages, \$5.75.

This is a very small-sized book on anatomy which is written particularly for the ancillary medical fields which require a knowledge of anatomy. As a result, it is very straightforward, simple, direct, with clear and concise diagrammatic illustrations. It serves a very useful purpose in this particular area but is a book which would hardly be of value for either the medical student or for the practicing physician. Its main field of usefulness will be for the physiotherapist, occupational therapist, students in physical and health education. It will also be an excellent book for nurses and for the latter groups of people it can be strongly recommended. This is not an anatomy book for medical students or physicians.

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**SHEARER'S MANUAL OF HUMAN DISSECTION—3rd ed.** Edited by Charles E. Tobin, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Anatomy, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., 1955. 287 pages, \$6.00.

With the recent trends to try and condense the amount of anatomy teaching in medical schools, one sees appearing on the market more and more, shorter textbooks of anatomy and shorter dissection manuals in the field of anatomy.

The effort of Charles E. Tobin in his revision of *Shearer's Manual of Human Dissection* has resulted in a book with this particular concept of the role of anatomy in medical school teaching in mind. The book is brief, concise and to the point. The illustrations in it are few, diagrammatic but clear and rather well done. The book could certainly not serve as a primary text in anatomy nor could it be used alone as a dissection manual in the field. However, it would serve a nice purpose for one who wishes to rapidly review the field of anatomy during the course of his student days or in his later years. In this regard it might be worth while to mention the fact that for the postgraduate physician a more ready review of anatomy can be obtained in the illustrated type of book which has recently been published by Bassett of Stanford University, but a book which is far more expensive. Nevertheless, an approach of the latter type makes anatomy a much more significant and live subject for the practicing physician or surgeon and also serves excellently for students.

If one is looking for a small inexpensive book on human dissection the book by Dr. Tobin is well done. On the other hand it is not equal to the standard textbooks of anatomy and does not afford the simplicity of the extensive visual aid types of books which have been referred to above. The approach is not from the surgical standpoint so it would be of relatively little value for the operating surgeon.

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**DISEASES OF THE SKIN—8th ed., thoroughly revised.** Oliver S. Ormsby, M.D., Late Rush Professor of Dermatology, University of Illinois; and Hamilton Montgomery, M.D., M.S., Professor of Dermatology and Syphilology, Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research, Graduate School, University of Minnesota, Rochester, Minn. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia, 1954. 1503 pages, 666 figures containing 750 illustrations and 18 colored illustrations on 11 plates, \$22.00.

The eighth edition of Ormsby and Montgomery's *Diseases of the Skin* contains numerous improvements over the previous edition. DeLamater, Professor of Dermatology at the University of Pennsylvania, has brought his section on mycologic disorders up to date; Lobitz of Dartmouth has contributed a chapter on the physiology and chemistry of the skin. This represents the finest chapter of its kind in any dermatologic text. Kierland and Farber have contributed chapters on syphilis and peripheral vascular diseases respectively.

More information is available on the classification and treatment of pemphigus, and excellent information is available on the classification of lupus erythematosus and the identification of the L. E. cell.

This book is to be recommended to specialists in dermatology and pathologists.

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**POMP AND PESTILENCE—Infectious Disease, Its Origins and Conquest.** Ronald Hare, M.D., Professor of Bacteriology in the University of London and at St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School. The Philosophical Library, Inc., New York, 1955. 224 pages, \$5.75.

This readable little book deals with infections from a general standpoint; it is, however, richly documented with so many specific examples that one has no feeling of vacuity. The reader may gather an idea of what is in the book by scanning the table of contents—Parasites and Parasitism, Man and His Parasites, Parasites and Pestilence, Miasmas or Microbes and finally the Reaction of the Community and of the Individual and Parasites and Populations. There are chapter notes with references to the literature and there is an index. To show how quickly things move, in the group of parasites over whose effect we have no control poliomyelitis is still mentioned!